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25 OCT 1967

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The Honorable Alexander Flax
Director, National Reconnaissance Office
Department of Defense
Washington, D.C.

Dear Al:

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Your letter of 18 October proposing a reconnaissance satellite [redacted] study raises a most important question, and I believe the Intelligence Community can profitably contribute to various aspects of it. You will be interested, in this connection, in reading the latest national estimate on Soviet Strategic Air and Missile Defenses, currently in draft, which briefly assesses Soviet capabilities and intentions in the field [redacted]

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The more detailed areas of investigation which you set forth, however, encompass certain facets which, I believe, call for judgments from outside the Intelligence Community. I propose, therefore, that a representative from each of our offices collaborate in drawing up suitable terms of reference which will enable the Intelligence Community most effectively to respond to the questions you raise. If you agree, I will ask [redacted] to get together with your designee to work out the details.

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Sincerely,

SIGNED

Richard Helms
Director

DD/S&T
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NRO review(s)
completed.

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